

# FOUR DAYS OF FUN IN MURRAY BRIDGE

Nestled on the traditional lands of the Ngarrindjeri people and named after Australia's longest river, Murray Bridge is a thriving rural community that offers a unique blend of history, natural beauty, and endless adventure. And the best part? It's just a short hour's drive from Adelaide.

When it comes to family holidays, Murray Bridge has it all. With an abundance of water sports, nature trails, and historical landmarks, there's something for everyone to enjoy. Whether you're looking for a relaxing break or an action-packed adventure, you're sure to find it here. And with endless opportunities to explore and discover, your family will create memories that will last a lifetime.

# DAY 1

Are you ready for an unforgettable holiday? Murray Bridge offers a range of activities to suit every interest and energy level. From leisurely walks through nature reserves to heart-pumping adventures on the river, there's always something new to experience. So gather your loved ones, pack your bags, and get ready for an incredible journey of discovery and fun. Murray Bridge is waiting for you!

To make the most of your family getaway, be sure to stop by the Murray Bridge Visitor Information Centre at 3 South Terrace. Here, your children can collect a free activity kit that includes colouring-in cards featuring "local identities" from Murray Bridge. The friendly volunteers will also provide you with insider tips, local insights, and information about the best attractions and hidden secrets in the area.

So why wait? Let's get started on a rejuvenating family break in Murray Bridge that you'll cherish for years to come!

#### ΔМ

You'll arrive at Murray Bridge mid-morning to be greeted by the fresh country air. Take some time out to stretch your legs and orientate yourselves by embarking on the Murray Bridge Discovery Trail. This trail is a hidden gem that will take you on a journey through the town's fascinating history. Start off at the tribute to the traditional owners of the land – the Ngarrindjeri people, and let the interpretive signs guide you through the trail.

One of the trail highlights is the Murray Bridge Regional Gallery - an artistic hub that's home to amazing contemporary art from both local and national artists. The gift shop is a must-visit for unique gifts, so make sure to check it out.

But wait, there's more! But that's not all! Murray Bridge is also home to the fascinating Round House - a distinctive hexagonal building that played a pivotal role in the town's development. Take a tour and uncover remarkable stories of the past while trying on the clothes of the era. Don't forget to snap some photos of the spectacular views of the river and bridges, or grab a selfie with Mr Parker, the first resident of the house.

Afterwards, take a stroll along the river at Sturt Reserve for some breathtaking views. Keep your eyes peeled for the Bunyip (Mulyawonk), a mythical creature that lurks in a watery cave on the banks. Children will love watching this entertaining spectacle rise from the depths of its watery cave!



#### PΜ

Interrupt your Murray Bridge adventure with a perfect lunch at Sturt Reserve, situated right on the banks of the river. Whether you prefer to grab some tasty treats from Little Local Co or indulge in a relaxed lunch at 1924 River Tavern, both indoor and alfresco dining options offer stunning views of the river that are sure to impress.

After satisfying your taste buds, it's time to check into your accommodation, change into your swimming togs and head over to the Murray Bridge Swimming Centre and Splash Park. This water wonderland boasts a heated 50 metre pool, a half shaded medium sized learner's pool and fully shaded small toddler's pool. With five thrilling water slides for kids, fun water features for toddlers, and a massive 48-metre SupaSlide, teenagers and adults entertained for hours. It's the perfect place for a fun-filled afternoon for the whole family!

End the day with dinner at the Rivergum Restaurant at the Bridgeport Hotel. With spectacular views of the Murray River and twin bridges, this is the perfect place to wind down and enjoy a delicious meal featuring local produce. Parents can even indulge in a sneaky cocktail.

# DAY 2

Picture waking up in the morning and taking a moment to enjoy the beautiful view of the river stretching out before you. It's a truly breathtaking sight, especially with the mist hovering over the water.

The sweet sound of birds singing creates a peaceful atmosphere that surrounds you with a feeling of calmness. It truly doesn't get better than this – a moment that you'll remember and cherish for years to come.

### **AM**

Start your day off right by waking up early and fueling up for the next stage of your adventure. Swing by the legendary McCues Bakery for a quick bite to eat and a coffee to jumpstart your morning. You'll want to be well-nourished for the exciting day ahead.

This morning you will be embarking on an unforgettable journey down the majestic river on the Water Discovery Trail. You can hire a kayak from Freedom Boat Hire for a leisurely paddle or if you're feeling adventurous, opt for a thrilling water sports experience. Launch from Sturt Reserve or Avoca Dell Reserve and explore grassy reserves, the wharf precinct, and glide under the iconic twin bridges.

As you continue your journey down the river, be sure to take in the breathtaking sights of the wetlands lagoon and the native wildlife that calls it home. The beauty of the natural surroundings will leave you in awe as you glide past Hume Reserve, also known as Pomberuk, which holds great cultural and spiritual significance for the Ngarrindjeri people. Take a moment to learn about the history of this special place, and keep your eyes peeled for sightings of local kangaroos, koalas, and the diverse birdlife that inhabits the area.

#### PM

After working up an appetite, take a break and indulge in a relaxing tour of the river with Captain Proud Paddle Boat Cruises. Sit back and relax in the period-style dining room as you enjoy a delicious lunch and matching beverages while soaking in the stunning scenery. If you have kids, they can even help the captain steer the paddle boat!

After the tour, take advantage of the many barbeques available in the parks and try your luck at catching a Callop for supper. If you're not successful, don't worry - there's always a local fish and chip shop to save the day.



As the sun begins to set, sit back and marvel at the breathtaking sunset and blanket of stars not visible in the city. It's the perfect way to end a thrilling day of adventure and relaxation on the Murray River.

### DAY 3

Today is dedicated to taking your senses to another level by stepping into your very own African Safari adventure.

Exploring the Monarto Safari Park you will leave with unforgettable memories of once in a lifetime experiences not available anywhere else in Australia.

#### AΜ

Begin your day with a refreshing and healthy breakfast at Mystical Flair located in Bridge Street.

While there, take the opportunity to browse their fantastic range of clothing and accessories, perfect for souvenirs or gifts for loved ones back home.

After breakfast it's time to get ready for a wild adventure as you explore the Monarto Safari Park, the biggest open-range zoo in Australia. With over 50 species of exotic and native mammals, birds, reptiles, together with one of Australia's largest lion prides and giraffe herds, you're in for a once-in-a-lifetime experience not found anywhere else in the country.

The Monarto Safari Park is located just a 10-minute drive from the outskirts of Murray Bridge. There are so many ways to explore the park, and with an interactive app as your personal tour guide, you'll have access to information about the zoo, its animals, and conservation work right at your fingertips.

Get ready for an adventure as you take the walk of the brave in Australia's only 360-degree lion encounter, allowing you to see the world of these awe-inspiring predators from a prey's eye view. For an even closer encounter, book one of six exclusive opportunities to hand-feed the majestic lions. If you're looking for a gentler family experience, take a stroll with the meerkats or feed the friendly giraffes. Don't miss the keeper presentations, where you can see the animals enjoy a favorite treat or toy and learn more about them from their dedicated caretakers.

## PM

After an exciting day of wildlife encounters, return to your accommodation for some relaxation before dinner. Head to Bridge Street and experience the flavours of India at Bombay Beats, an authentic Indian restaurant. Learn about the Tandoor, a vertical clay pot used to cook food with radiant and convection heat and enjoy a culinary adventure. Even those with less adventurous palates will find something to enjoy at this delicious spot.

# DAY 4

On your last day in Murray Bridge, don't miss the opportunity to explore the breathtaking Swanport Wetlands just off the South Eastern Freeway. The wetlands are a sanctuary for wildlife, home to a variety of native plants, birds, animals, and fish. Take a leisurely stroll along the boardwalk and listen out for the sweet sounds of frogs and birds. Don't forget to visit the bird hides, viewing platforms, and photo points to capture the beauty of this unique environment.



And what better way to wrap up your Murray Bridge adventure than with a delicious meal of pub grub in the perfect riverside setting? The Wellington Hotel, nestled on the banks of the Murray River and overlooking the ferry crossing, offers stunning views from its dining rooms and alfresco area, complementing the scrumptious array of dishes on offer.

As you bid farewell to Murray Bridge, we hope you had an unforgettable four-day getaway and that you experienced some of the wonders our region has to offer. We invite you to start planning your next trip and explore more of our stunning trails or immerse yourself in the excitement of one of our hallmark events that attract visitors from far and wide.

Murray Bridge is constantly changing, and there is always something new and fun to see and do. Stay in touch with us by following us on Facebook or Instagram to be one of the first to hear about exciting initiatives and events as they roll out in the future. And don't forget to tag us into your adventures using @Rural City of Murray Bridge and the hashtags #RuralCityOfMurrayBridge #MurrayBridge #MakeltYours #Thriving- Communities.

Thank you for choosing Murray Bridge as your destination, and we hope to welcome you back soon!

# **GETTNG HERE**

Looking to explore the stunning natural beauty and endless adventure that Murray Bridge has to offer? While there are daily coach services available from Adelaide and the Overland train service stops at Murray Bridge three times a week on its journey between Adelaide and Melbourne, to truly immerse yourself in all the excitement, you'll need a car to fully experience this remarkable destination.

With your own set of wheels, you'll have the freedom to navigate winding country roads, uncover hidden gems, and chart your own course as you discover the endless attractions and activities that Murray Bridge has to offer. Why settle for a limited itinerary or miss out on the best that this vibrant community has to offer - bring or rent a car and get ready to embark on an adventure that you'll never forget!

# **ACCOMMODATION CHOICES**

### **Bridgeport Hotel**

Indulge in the ultimate riverfront escape at the Bridgeport Hotel, boasting stunning views of the majestic Murray River. Immerse yourself in luxury with their newly re-developed high-quality accommodation, accompanied by delectable South Australian cuisine and an exciting entertainment lineup. You won't want to leave this picturesque oasis.

### **Wow Houseboats**

Take your holiday to new heights with Wow Houseboats, where the experience is all about the WOW factor. From the stylish decor to the thoughtful amenities, this houseboat promises to create unforgettable memories for you and your loved ones. Bring the whole family, including your furry friends, and immerse yourself in the breathtaking views of the Murray River. Get ready for a houseboat holiday like no other.

## Avoca Dell

For the ultimate family getaway, Avoca Dell Caravan Park is the perfect choice. Situated right on the banks of the mighty Murray River, just a stone's throw away from the vibrant township of Murray Bridge, this park offers fantastic facilities including a fully enclosed air-conditioned dining room, well-appointed camp kitchen, and a large undercover BBQ area. Keep the kids entertained with the playground and boat ramp, all while enjoying the tranquil river views.